

Message Text

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TAGS: OEXC, MX
SUBJECT: US SPEAKERS PROGRAM - "CONGRESSIONAL VIEWS OF US FOREIGN
POLICY" (FY 1977 CP NO. CUB-1A, MX-06)

REF: MEXICO FM 15, 5/14/76. FY 1977 COUNTRY PLAN

SUMMARY:

EMBASSY REQUESTS CU/USIA SUPPORT FOR TWO-DAY SYMPOSIUM
TO BE HELD IN MEXICO ON TOPIC OF "CONGRESSIONAL VIEWS OF
US FOREIGN POLICY," FOR GROUP OF 15 MEXICAN FOREIGN
AFFAIRS SPECIALISTS FROM GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES AND
POLITICAL PARTIES. PROGRAM WOULD BE BUILT AROUND 2-4 US
SPEAKERS, EITHER AMSPECS OR VOLSPEAKERS, SELECTED FROM
AMONG CONGRESSMEN OR STAFFERS WITH FOREIGN AFFAIRS
EXPERIENCE. END SUMMARY.

1. DESCRIPTION: THE MAIN FOCUS OF THIS PROJECT WOULD
BE A ONE OR TWO-DAY INTENSIVE PROGRAM IN OR NEAR MEXICOO
CITY IN WHICH 2-4 CONGRESSMEN OR LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANTS
WOULD DISCUSS CURRENT VIEWS OF CONGRESS CONCERNING MAJOR
INTERNATIONAL ISSUES, ESPECIALLY THOSE INVOLVING LATIN
AMERICA, WITH A GROUP OF ABOUT FIFTEEN MEXICAN GOVERNMENT
AND POLITICAL LEADERS WITH STRONG ACADEMIC BACKGROUNDS
AND EXPERIENCE IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, AND SPECIAL
INTEREST IN THE US POLITICAL SYSTEM. THE EMPHASIS WOULD
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BE ON SPECIFIC ISSUES AND CONGRESSIONAL ACTIONS, AND THE

TOPIC WOULD BE DEALT WITH ON A FAIRLY SPHISTICATED LEVEL
BY ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS IN THE PROCESS.
IF THE US PARTICIPANTS' TIME PERMITTED, VISITS TO KEY
MEXICAN POLITICAL, GOVERNMENTAL, AND ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS
IN THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS FIELD FOR INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH
MEXICAN STAFFS WOULD BE ARRANGED FOR AN ADDITIONAL TWO DAYS.
ALL MEETINGS WOULD BE IN ENGLISH, WITH INTERPRETERS
PROVIDED WHEN NECESSARY. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THE
MEXICAN PARTICIPANTS IN THE SYMPOSIUM WOULD BE ENGLISH
SPEAKING.

2. OBJECTIVES:

1. BY GIVING MEXICAN FOREIGN AFFAIRS LEADERS AN ACCURATE
IDEA OF THE INTERPLAY OF FORCES INVOLVED IN THE
FORMULATION OF US FOREIGN POLICY, ENABLE THEM TO REACT
MORE SYMPATHETICALLY, REALISTICALLY, AND PERHAPS
EFFECTIVELY TO THOSE POLICIES.

2. DEVELOP A WEB OF PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIPS
("INSTITUTIONAL" TO SOME EXTENT) BETWEEN US AND MEXICAN
FOREIGN AFFAIRS SPECIALISTS THAT CAN BE DRAWN UPON TO
FACILITATE THE CONDUCT OF BILATERAL RELATIONS.

3. ENABLE THE EMBASSY TO IDENTIFY AND DEVELOP
WORKING RELATIONSHIPS WITH UPCOMING MEXICAN FOREIGN
AFFAIRS LEADERS.

3. PROJECT OFFICER: HARRY B. ICELAND.

4. PROPOSED DATES: NOVEMBER, 1976 OR FEBRUARY-APRIL, 1977.
ACCORDING TO AVAILABILITY OF US PARTICIPANTS, AVOID
DECEMBER-JANUARY BECAUSE OF VACATIONS AND CHANGE OF
ADMINISTRATION IN MEXICO.

5. BUDGET: US PARTICIPANTS WOULD BE FUNDED AS VOLUNTEER
SPEAKERS OR AMSPECS. COSTS FOR FOUR WOULD BE AS FOLLOWS:

| | |
|-------------------|---------|
| AIRFARE | \$1,400 |
| PER DIEM (4 DAYS) | 560 |

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| IN-COUNTRY EXPENSES | 1,500 |
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| TOTAL | \$3,460 |

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